

RESTORED

*FORGIVING THE
UNFORGIVABLE*

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*MORE THAN HER
WORST MOMENT*

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BEHIND THE COVER

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" **Revelation 21:5**

A broken plate. On the one hand, it is the symbol of failure and loss. But in God's reckoning, the broken state of a plate, or our lives, does not always mean loss. Every human heart is marred by sin - that brokenness inevitably impacts not only our lives, but the lives of all we come in contact with. But when we forgive, and when we seek forgiveness, we participate in the Lord's redemptive plan for this world. Because of Christ's sacrifice, our brokenness can lead to healing and restoration. Thanks be to God!

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PEACE, BE STILL

Replacing bitterness with forgiveness, Rhonda (Bloss '02) Cahill navigates through the desert.



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Founded in 1846, Taylor University is one of America's oldest Christian liberal arts colleges. Over 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from 42 states and 30 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 64 fields of study are available. For the eighth year in a row, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category Best Regional Colleges in the 2015 *US News & World Report* survey, *America's Best Colleges*.

The mission of Taylor University is to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need.



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*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



RESTORING WHAT WAS LOST

I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten ...
Joel 2:25

They may have loved each other once. But years of careless words, wrongs – real and perceived – and paybacks had long since crushed that love, leaving in its shattered place dueling senses of anger and resentment. It was a miserable existence. The subject on this night was his mother, whose death a few months before was still fresh and painful. As his wife began to recite the litany of wrongs that she believed his mother had heaped on her, he at long last had heard enough. “She’s dead,” he said, anger rising within him. “Can’t you just let it go?”

Her answer was profound and honest. “I just can’t.” No, she could not – not now, not 10 years from now. The decades of hurts were as fresh as they always had been. She had come to him to defend her, to support and embrace her, and he had failed. She was well past talk of mercy and forgiveness. She wanted justice. How incredibly sad.

It is hard to forgive those who injure us and watch them walk away seemingly unaffected as our wounds are laid open. We all know we *should* forgive. We all seek forgiveness. But it is so very hard to grant.

In this issue of *Taylor*, we have prayerfully shared a few stories on forgiveness, healing and restoration entrusted to us by our alumni. Hopefully, we will be encouraged, chastened, inspired and convicted by stories of grace in Rwanda, forgiving and embracing one whose suicide left an indelible mark since childhood, and the renewal of innocence after the greatest of betrayals.

One of the passages that has touched my heart the deepest is from the Old Testament Book of Joel. God’s promise to repay his children what was lost to the swarming, invading locusts of their lives (and ours) gives me hope. I pray that each of you will embrace that hope that is possible only from our Lord.



James R. Garringer
 Editor



CAMPUS CENTER CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

On April 9, the \$20 million LaRita R. Boren Campus Center will officially begin its trek from drawing boards to mortar, bricks and steel. Campus officials say the 48,000 square foot facility will celebrate and house vital elements of Taylor's historic community life.

When it is finished, the complex will be nearly triple the size of Taylor's existing student union. The new Campus Center will be home to not only the student union, but also a commons, small auditorium, coffee shop, and eating area. Also located there will be the offices of Taylor's Calling and Career Center, Intercultural Programs, Taylor World Outreach, Taylor Student Organization, Spencer Centre for Global Engagement and Center for Student Development.

The facility will be constructed adjacent to Taylor's Rediger Chapel/Auditorium. As part of the construction project, the nearly 40-year-old Chapel/Auditorium will be renovated, leading to chapel services and other events regularly scheduled for Rediger to move to the Odle Arena and other venues. during the 2015 fall semester.

The Campus Center's namesake, LaRita R. Boren, was a longtime Taylor trustee, honorary alumna and friend who was known for her love of the Taylor community. She died after a brief illness in 2011.

President Eugene B. Habecker '68 said the generosity of Taylor alumni and friends has been critical in the push to complete fundraising for the building. "At the beginning of the academic year, this effort stood at a little over \$4 million, but thanks to the visionary and sacrificial giving of many wonderful friends, we have reached \$19.6 million," he said, adding Taylor officials will continue to raise needed funds before ground-breaking ceremonies.

"Many universities reference 'community' as being a hallmark of their experience. At Taylor University, our discipleship-focused, living and serving together model of community is one that is transformative and unique," added Habecker. "We believe the LaRita R. Boren Campus Center will fulfill two lasting purposes. First, this center will serve as the hub from which our vital, life-changing community originates. Second, it is our wish that for years to come this wonderful facility will honor the legacy and memory of a godly, beloved member of our Taylor community, LaRita R. Boren."

Campus officials say the LaRita R. Boren Campus Center is expected to open before the conclusion of Spring Semester 2016. [T](#)

OVERSEAS STUDY PROGRAM HIGHLY RANKED IN NATIONAL POLL

Taylor University has received high national rankings for its overseas study program from *Open Doors*, a publication of the Institute of International Education (IIE) in association with the U.S. State Department.

The survey, which compared Taylor's overseas study program with other baccalaureate schools throughout the country, ranked Taylor second for the number of students who participate in short-term duration drips, third for the percentage of students participating in overseas and/or international study and service trips, and ninth for the overall number of students taking advantage of overseas study opportunities.

"The Open Doors standings reflect the rich history and heritage of Taylor University and the fact that, from its inception until now, there has been an unusually strong commitment to engaging the world," said Dr. Charles Brainer, Dean of International Programs and Director of the Spencer Centre for Global Engagement.


In January, 292 Taylor students continued that commitment to global engagement as they traveled to 16 countries for academic and mission trips. Lighthouse sent five teams to Ethiopia, Paraguay, Peru, Nepal and Southeast Asia, where Taylor students partnered with organizations that included Tiny Hands International, Project Mercy, and Vision Trust.

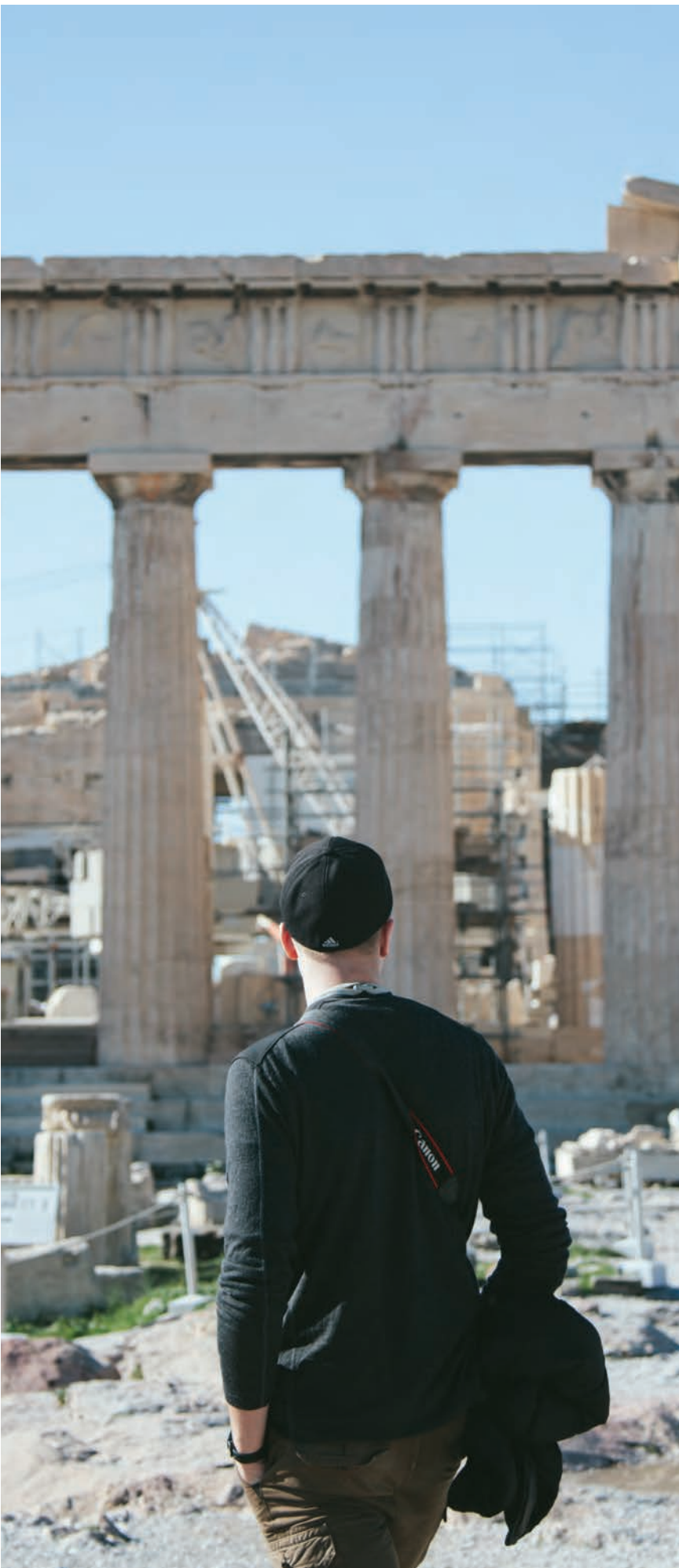
"Lighthouse helps students develop relationships across other cultures and learn about people's lives, beliefs, customs, hopes and needs, all while evaluating their own," said Katie Rousopoulos '07 (MAHE '09), Director of Lighthouse Programs.

"I was expecting to be the one giving out all the love," Sarah Coss '15 said, reflecting on her experience teaching in a Peruvian orphanage, "but my heart feels so filled with the love the kids showed us."

In addition to the Lighthouse trips, Taylor students participated in 11 academic trips ranging from literature studies in London to education practicums in the Philippines.

"There is no substitute for contextualized learning in the history and living cultures of study abroad locations," Brainer said.

Open Doors, supported by a grant from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, is a comprehensive information resource on international students and scholars studying or teaching at higher education institutions in the United States, and U.S. students studying abroad for academic credit at their home colleges or universities. 





Taylor faculty, students partner with Bible Gateway

A partnership between Bible Gateway and Taylor University has resulted in a newly-created section on the Bible Gateway website devoted to Scripture engagement. These new materials were created by Dr. Phil Collins '84, Executive Director of Taylor's Center for Scripture Engagement, and by Taylor students in his Christian Education and Bible courses.

Recognized as the Internet's largest Christian website, Bible Gateway has been online for 20 years. The site offers free access to the Bible in more than 70 languages and is visited by users from more than 200 countries. Bible Gateway's website and app are visited by more than 18 million unique visitors per month.

Established through more than \$1 million in gifts, Taylor's Center for Scripture Engagement has a goal that scripture engagement will become one of the most broadly-applied missional concepts to emerge in the Christian world in this decade.


"Bible surveys seem to indicate that, while the Bible continues to be the top international bestseller, a large

percentage of people are not reading it as often or as attentively as their Bible ownership might indicate," said Rachel Barach, general manager, Bible Gateway. "We're delighted to work with Taylor University's Center for Scripture Engagement (TUCSE) to help the millions of users of Bible Gateway to not only read the Bible, but to also incorporate its life-changing teachings into their everyday living."

The materials prepared for Bible Gateway by Collins and his students comprise 12 Bible reading practices with end goals aimed at helping Christians know God intimately and become closer followers of Jesus. Those materials include tips on journaling, memorizing, public reading and prayer.

"I had met Rachel Barach two-and-a-half years ago at a conference in New York," said Collins. "We started comparing notes, and I told her about what we were doing, and that our plan was to develop a clearing house of as many good resources and descriptions of Scripture engagement as we could to put them on the Taylor website. As we kept emailing and talking on the phone, Rachel and Bible Gateway decided they would like to host the materials."

Collins said within days of the Scripture engagement section launch, he had received inquiries from Africa, France and the Netherlands. And he believes those inquiries will grow more frequent in the future.


"It's been very encouraging. Our vision for the Center for Scripture Engagement is to equip people to engage the Scriptures in ways that will drive evangelism, personal discipleship, worldview formation, and church planting," said Collins. 


To learn more, visit
www.biblegateway.com/resources/scripture-engagement.


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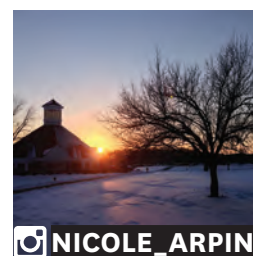
SOCIAL


ONE OF SOCIAL MEDIA'S BEST QUALITIES IS ITS ABILITY TO SHARE INSTANTANEOUS INFORMATION WITH FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES VIA TWITTER, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM OR VARIOUS OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA. HERE ARE A FEW TWEETS AND INSTAGRAM PHOTOS THAT WE HAVE ENJOYED DURING THE PAST MONTHS.

 [@sara_andler13](#) Jay Kesler talking about his love life in chapel. He can't be tamed. I love it! #TaylorU

 [@JesseCoffey25](#) When walking across campus at #TaylorU, no matter which direction you're going, you better believe you'll be walking directly into the wind.

 [@shaynadale](#) As much as I am excited to study abroad, I am definitely going to miss #TaylorU with all of my being.



 [@ScottEtheridge1](#) #TaylorU who do I talk to about Bell Tower requests? Final Countdown?

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INQUIRY, INVESTMENT AND INSIGHT HIGHLIGHT FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DR. SCOTT ADAMS (Business) learned the Charles Schwab Foundation awarded Taylor University's Finance Program a \$50,000 gift over three years to be used to purchase equipment for a finance trading lab and provide scholarships for Taylor students.

DR. ROBERT ARONSON (Public Health) coauthored *Laying the Groundwork for Evidence-Based Public Health*, published in the American Journal of Public Health.

DR. MATT DELONG (Mathematics) serves on the Leadership Team as Associate Director for Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching), a professional development program at the national level for new or recent PhDs in the mathematical sciences sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America.

DR. KEVIN DILLER'S '93 (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) book, *Theology's Epistemological Dilemma: How Karl Barth and Alvin Plantinga Provide a Unified Response*, was published by InterVarsity Press.

DR. SHERI KLOUDA (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) is directing seven Hebrew students researching an 11th century Hebrew codex provided by the Green Scholars' Initiative. The work is in its third year at Taylor.

DR. LINDA (DENEAU '99) MANGANELLO (Communications) wrote 3 *Ways to Love Others with Our Language* as a guest post on Ed Stetzer's blog on Christianity Today's website.

DR. ED MEADORS (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) taught a summer course on the book of Revelation at Africa Theological Seminary.

DR. LORNE MOOK '87 (English) had his poem *The Miracle We Need* published in Relief Journal 7.2 (2014).

DR. SCOTT MOESCHBERGER '97 (Psychology) co-edited the book: *Symbols that Bind, Symbols that Divide: The Semiotics of Peace and Conflict*.

GARY ROSS '95 (Men's Soccer/KSAC Director) was published in Growth

Journal, the Association for Christians in Student Development (ACSD) periodical, edited by Drs. Skip Trudeau and Tim Herrmann '75. The piece dealt with forging character within a competitive athletic environment.

DR. MIKE SEVERE (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) led an international gathering of researchers and educators in Washington, D.C., in October 2014.

DR. JIM SPIEGEL (Biblical Studies Christian Education Philosophy) was awarded a Templeton Fellowship for a fall semester sabbatical during which he prepared *The Virtue of Open-Mindedness*, a paper on intellectual virtue and civil discourse, at the Biola University Center for Christian Thought.

DR. COLLEEN WARREN (English) was chosen by the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Scholar for participation in a seminar Reconsidering Flannery O'Connor, a four-week program held last summer at Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, Ga.



PROFESSOR TRACY (TOBEY '92) MANNING (Communications) formed a student playback company. Comprised of Taylor students, the company seeks to integrate scriptural engagement into the playback model.



COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FACULTY, STUDENTS PROGRAM DRONES FOR FLIGHT

Keith Bauson (left) and Scott King work in the Drone Room in the Euler Science Complex.

Five Taylor students guide a quadcopter across the morning sky. After a semester's worth of work, these computer science majors are thrilled to see their success soaring above Taylor's campus, creating new possibilities for the future of the Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) Department.

The team consists of seniors Sam Bolds, Scott King, Tyler Garcia, Devin Moore and Caleb Stevenson. They began building the drones as part of a directed research course led by Art White, Department Chair and Professor of Computer Science and Engineering.

Over the course of the semester, they worked to program flight control for the drones' systems and install sensors to help avoid collisions.

"They're working on what I would call the elements of autonomous flight," explained White. "The whole point of this is not to have RC [remote-controlled] drones."

With their current flight capabilities, the drones were able to hover approximately 200 feet above

campus and capture stunning images of Taylor for The Echo.

The team worked closely with the CSE department to outline specific requirements and find a company that manufactured drones with open systems the student programmers could easily modify.

With money set aside for purchasing innovative equipment for the Euler Science Complex, the CSE department bought high-end drones for research and less complex drones to be used as learning tools for lower-level classes from 3D Robotics, a company that manufactures consumer drone technology as well as drones for commercial applications. Taylor's drones are intended for continued use by students interested in artificial intelligence hardware and machine programming.

Each team member brought his specific gifts to the project. Bolds worked with copter enhancement, King took the lead in vendor interactions, Stevenson worked with math modeling for the sensor, Moore did project documentation, and Garcia was the primary programmer.

"My team right now is trying to build a library of code that computer science students could easily pick a command from to control the copter," Bolds said.

The team's work continues this semester as they begin programming the drones for image processing.

Their work has already garnered interest from other academic departments at Taylor. The Earth and Environmental Science department asked if they could use the drones for environmental missions to conduct infrared heat mapping. [T](#)

IT'S NOT ABOUT BASKET- BALL

BY MEREDITH SELL '14

From her seat on the bench, junior guard Emily Cho looks like any other Taylor athlete: fit, focused, determined. She hasn't had much playing time in this game or any other this season, but she doesn't mind.

She's at Taylor for more than basketball. In fact, the words tattooed on her right forearm tell the story: *Love you, Dad*. It is in her father's handwriting, copied from one of his many letters to her.



In February 2009, Emily's freshman year of high school, her father went to federal prison for a white-collar crime. A daddy's girl, Emily's identity was wrapped up in her father and basketball. After his imprisonment, the only communication they had was through letters or an occasional phone call from prison. Even as she threw herself into basketball, Emily numbed herself to his absence, falling into a status of merely "okay."

When time came to choose a college, she made the decision with her mother. Her father wasn't part of the process. Neither was basketball.

"I didn't want to make basketball my identity, because before I felt like basketball really was my identity - especially when it came to ... my dad," Emily said.

Her freshman year at Taylor, Emily kept content with intramurals, focusing on her studies in exercise science and relationships in her residence hall. Then, December 2013, her sophomore year, her father was given home probation. No longer used to having him directly involved in her life and no longer playing the sport that had knit them together, Emily felt a tension in their relationship. If they couldn't talk about basketball, what could they talk about?

"I think pride comes into it ... and the fact that I do need a dad," Emily said. "We were able to grow in our relationship."

Back on campus for the spring semester, Emily met Kelly Packard, Taylor's Head Women's Basketball Coach, and became curious about the possibility of joining the team.

"When she initially approached me, I wasn't thinking about her as much of an option," Packard said, "but I noticed incredible maturity."

Packard came to one of Emily's intramural basketball games and saw that she understood the game, but as she continued the conversation Emily no longer seemed sure. Her father was facing another sentencing, and Emily had much to think about. After she went home for the summer, her father was sent back to prison. It was harder for Emily than the first time.

Not a word passed between Emily and Packard until the week before classes when Packard emailed Emily saying she wanted to talk to her when she returned to campus.


"I directly and boldly told her over coffee that ... I wasn't sure why, but 'I feel like you need to be on the team,'" Coach Packard said. "There's something you bring that our program needs."

Emily took a week to think through pros and cons: she'd have to give up a possible Lighthouse trip, but she'd be part of a team again and stepping into a new purpose God had for her on the team.

Yes, I'll join.

At first she struggled explaining to her father why she was playing, but he understood, and since then, continues encouraging her to learn what she can, glorify God in all she does, and remember that he is proud of her.

Just like she doesn't know why God allowed her father to go back to prison, Emily doesn't know what God's purpose is for having her on the women's basketball team, but she trusts that her Heavenly Father has purpose for her there.

"This isn't about me or basketball." 



THOUGHTS ON THE PATH TO FORGIVING

BY BOB NEIDECK '82

In Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 the teacher writes, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"

As a counselor, some of the extraordinary blessings of my role at Taylor University come from working with our students, hearing their stories, and walking alongside them as they seek God in the midst of the obstacles and pain in their lives. It is an honor and joy and I am truly thankful to have the opportunity to be one charged with “lifting up his fellow.”

Perhaps it is not surprising that Taylor students face many of the same trials, hurts and challenges that afflict all of us in this lost and fallen world. Abandonment, abuse, parental failures, and so many other deep injuries can leave scars on their hearts and souls. In the coming paragraphs, I want to offer some thoughts on the sometimes foggy idea of forgiveness and the role it plays in healing the damage inflicted by a sinful world.

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul wrote, “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” It seems like such a simple command from Scripture; and yet it can be such a difficult calling. Each of us has been wounded. Each of us has wronged another. Quite often, the deepest wounds can be inflicted upon us by those we love and trust the most. The ongoing impact and implications of this betrayal can be a crushing weight. We are called to forgive. But how?

I share with students that the process of forgiveness starts with the acknowledgement that what was done to them was wrong, sinful, and shouldn’t have happened. I use the word “blame.” It is a dramatic word, but I use it to help them clearly understand the role the other person played in their pain. There are often legitimate explanations for why someone might have sinned against them, but that does not remove that individual’s personal responsibility. The sin may have been expressed through sexual abuse, gossip, lies, abandonment, unrealistic expectations or unfair criticism. Whatever the form, it was not the fault of the injured person. They should have been protected, cherished and respected as image bearers of God. They were owed better.

We need to give ourselves permission to feel pain and sorrow, but instead there seems to be a natural reluctance to face things that are damaging. Instead of dealing with the hurt, we simply try to forget it (calling it forgiveness) and keep going. Dr. Jay Kesler ’58 has likened that act to pushing an inflated beach ball under the water’s surface. As time passes, it takes more and more effort to hold that ball under water. Eventually it is going

FOR ME, FORGIVENESS IS THE CANCELLATION OF A DEBT. IT’S NOT FORGETTING THE INJURY, BUT IT IS LOOKING AT SOMEONE AND SAYING, “YOU OWED ME BETTER, BUT YOU DON’T OWE ME ANYMORE.” TO FORGIVE IS TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE WRONG DONE IS A DEBT OF SIN, AND ALL SIN IS AGAINST GOD.

to resurface in some way. I tell my students that this sadness and anger is a natural part of the grieving process that must occur when we are hurt. Their feelings are signals and indicators of what is happening in their lives. Author Dan Allender says, “The first great enemy to lasting change is the propensity to turn our eyes away from the wound and pretend things are fine.”

And so it is from that place of honesty that we can take our next step, and that is actually beginning the process of forgiving the person who hurt us. If Scripture instructs us to forgive as God has forgiven us, are we to assume that God forgave us out of obligation or because He wants to do so? So then, do we forgive out of sheer force of will, because we “should” despite a hardened heart? Or is our next step to ask God to create in us a forgiving heart toward the person that wronged us?

For me, forgiveness is the cancellation of a debt. It’s not forgetting the injury, but it is looking at someone and saying, “You owed me better, but you don’t owe me anymore.” To forgive is to recognize that the wrong done is a debt of sin, and all sin is against God. Therefore in forgiving we transfer the debt from our ledger of accounts to God’s. Jesus Christ cancelled our debt. Just as he has forgiven each of us, we work toward forgiving each other. We transfer the person from our own debt collection service, from our personal justice, into the hands of a just and loving God.

There is a final step in this process, and that step is remembering. Forgiveness does not require forgetting. Forgiving offers the potential for healing pain, but not forgetting that the injury happened. It would be foolish and dangerous to erase from our minds some of the wrongs done to us. Doing so means we may never learn from the experience and might relive the same situations over again. Forgiveness isn’t an automatic restoration

of trust. Trust must be earned. If a person is a thief, it is foolish to give him a key to your house. Forgiving a wrong doing does not mean extending an invitation to the person to sin against you again. Plus, forgiveness is not synonymous with reconciliation. For reconciliation to take place, the other

person must display not only repentance but also a willingness to change.

There is a right time to forgive serious harm. We cannot always predict when; we can only get ourselves ready for it when it arrives. We prepare ourselves by learning to recognize sin against us, honestly identifying and expressing the intense emotions in a safe setting, and asking God to create in us a forgiving heart that can truly cancel a debt and be teachable in the midst of pain and hardship. **T**



BOB NEIDECK ’82 serves as the Director of Taylor’s Counseling Center.



RESTORED

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. **ROMANS 5:10**





forgiving the unforgivable

IT WAS A NONDESCRIPT SET OF STAIRS THAT LED INTO A SUBTERRANEAN COVE. INSIDE, VISITORS WERE CONFRONTED WITH A GRAPHIC REMINDER OF THIS NATION'S TORTURED PAST. ROWS UPON ROWS OF HUMAN SKULLS, NEATLY ARRANGED, CASTING VACANT STARES UPON THEIR VISITORS. SOME OF THE SKULLS WERE PRISTINE; OTHERS WERE MARKED WITH CRACKS AND HOLES – INJURIES CREATED BY BULLETS OR MACHETE-WIELDING ATTACKERS. EACH HAD BELONGED TO A MAN OR WOMAN, BOY OR GIRL, WHOSE LIFE HAD BEEN SENSELESSLY, VIOLENTLY SNUFFED OUT.



Skulls displayed at The Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre in Kigali, Rwanda.

Perhaps the most disturbing thing about this Rwandan genocide memorial is that many others just like it dot the landscape of this tiny African nation. For Michele (Moore '95) Leach, the place was made all the more chilling because of her love of the Rwandan people. In recent years, Leach has traveled twice to Rwanda to lead seminars aimed at fostering forgiveness and reconciliation in the nation and its people.

The path to the Rwandan genocide of 1994 was long and complicated. In the decades leading up to the catastrophe, there was evidence of mounting tension between the

nation's Tutsi and Hutu tribes. Enflamed rhetoric, perception and enmity helped fuel the dehumanization and marginalization of members of differing tribes. Eventually, those who were different became caricatures and enemies that had to be eradicated. By the spring of 1994, the throbbing hatred erupted when bands of guerillas from Rwanda's Hutu majority systematically killed as many as one million Tutsi and moderate Hutu tribal members. Although the exact number of deaths is unknown, it is believed up to one-fifth of Rwanda's total population and 70 percent of Rwanda's Tutsi population died during three

months of violence. Thousands, if not millions, of children were orphaned.

Leach would be the first to admit she cannot change the past, but that is not her goal. Instead, she believes the message of forgiveness she and others spread throughout the country will impact Rwanda's future. Leach's connection with Rwanda began during a J-Term trip to Israel when she met a Rwandan Christ-follower named Celestin Musekura. Musekura is the founder of African Leadership And Reconciliation Ministries (ALARM).

THEY TRULY LIVE IN COMMUNITY AND SERVICE. AND THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE LITERALLY LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES FOR OTHERS.



Spurring one another on to good deeds – Rwandan believers display servant's towels given them by Michele Leach.



“His story is one most definitely written by God through Celestin’s obedience,” Leach says, explaining that Musekura’s vision for the nation’s redemption and healing is what led to her service for ALARM. That service includes being a stateside advocate for ALARM and its redemptive cause, as well as traveling across the ocean to participate in hands-on ministry.

It is that hands-on ministry into which Leach infused a treasured part of her own spiritual journey last year. While leading a conference in Rwanda that explored those themes of forgiveness, Leach handed out servant’s towels, washcloths really, reminiscent of the servant’s towel she received at her Taylor graduation. And like her Taylor towel, inscribed on these towels was a passage of Scripture from 2 Corinthians.

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4: 5, 6)

“What I have found in being with these Rwandan friends is that they are so grateful for the encouragement,” Leach explains. “The first thing that came to mind when I reflected on this idea (of passing out servant’s towels) was Hebrews 10:24, which says, ‘And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another.’ Our times together definitely move me, and our partnership is significant because it im-

pacts each of our relationships with Christ and others. I think it brings us all to a deeper level of loving God and loving others.”

“The (Taylor) towel helps my family to self-govern. It causes us to ask ourselves, ‘Am I relying on the Holy Spirit?’” Leach reflects. “When I went to Rwanda, I wanted the towel with me as a reminder; I had written extra verses on it. Our kids would need reminders too, so we bought them their own hand towels and wrote reminders on them.

“We use the phrase, ‘We live the towel,’ but what does that mean?” Leach continues. “For me, teaching about how we ‘live the towel’ to these friends who consistently live lives of service is beyond humbling. Most of the Rwandan men and women (at the conference) have taken in children whose parents were lost through the genocide. Beyond taking in children, they naturally care for others in their villages. They truly live in community and service. And these are people who have literally laid down their lives for others.

“I have sat with friends who have shared their stories through the genocide and post-genocide,” adds Leach. “I have heard the joy of school children released from their school day while I am standing amidst thousands of bones – corpses – in memorial to the genocide. And I have sung and danced in worship to our loving God with friends who have experienced severe trauma. I am grateful for hope.”

And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.” Romans 5:5 **1**



MORE THAN HER WORST MOMENT

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die ...

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

There are days it seems like it was all a bad dream. The day Steve Messer's father came home from his naval deployment should have been one of the happiest days of his life. Steve, then a bubbly, rambunctious six-year-old boy, and his mother and father shared hugs and a joyful reunion. The family enjoyed a dinner together before father and son began work on a model. Steve's mother seemed peaceful and contented as she told her beloved how good it was to have him home. And then she added a comment that seemed somewhat out of place: "Steve will need you now." With that, she went upstairs to rest.

A short time later, Steve went upstairs to awaken her. The door moved

slowly and with great effort, as if something was stacked against it. The child kept pushing until it budged a little, just enough for him to slip inside. It was there that he found her. His mother was not breathing and he could tell something was terribly wrong. This little boy, whose world had seemed so perfect just moments before, bounded down the stairs shouting, "Emergency!" His father rushed upstairs. Steve's mother had taken her own life. Amidst the chaos and panic, there was her Bible. It was lying open on the bed to the third chapter of Ecclesiastes. "*There is a time for everything ... a time to be born and a time to die ...*"

In the coming weeks, Steve's father, overcome with grief, sent him to live with his grandparents in a quiet, small town in western Illinois. His grandparents loved him and did all that was within their power to give him a good upbringing. Time passed, and as it did, the trauma of finding his mother began to be covered by the layers of life. As Steve grew up, he discovered he

loved books and reading. He became a Christian and began to grow in his faith. Eventually, he left for college where he met the woman of his dreams. Life was good, and yet it was cast against a backdrop that was so terrible that his family refused to speak of it. And as a result, his internal struggle became too great to bear.

"I became very adept at suppressing my anger," remembers Steve, a longtime Professor of History at Taylor University. "Occasionally it would just bubble out. I used to be on [my high school] golf team and I got so angry one day when I missed a short putt that I took my putter and basically bent it into something resembling a Colts' horseshoe - which got even my attention.



"All my friends had normal families with a mother and father and everything, and I just missed that. I still have that sense of loss. I think I always will. The wound that I had has become a scar. With a scar, I am reminded of the pain of the wound, but also the healing."



“And I had perfectionism. I felt I had to be perfect because I had lost my mother,” Steve adds. “My father was no longer raising me, and I felt if I wasn’t perfect, I would lose my grandparents. They didn’t really encourage that feeling, but I did because I felt like I had to be perfect in order to stay there with them. I had days when I remember on the inside going from anger to despair because I wasn’t perfect.”


The despair and anger were Steve’s unwanted companions from his childhood and well into his adulthood, causing him to repeat a cycle of breakdown and attempts to restore himself. Eventually, Steve would seek counseling, which helped him with the struggles that began that night in his mother’s room, but there was always a sense of something unfinished in his relationship with his mother. That sense culminated on his 56th birthday when Steve felt a palpable nudge from the Lord, telling him to learn more of this woman whose death some 50 years before had so impacted his life.

As a result, Steve and his wife Betty, a Professor of Modern Languages at Taylor, set out to visit places that had been dear to his mother, interview family members, and prayerfully discover who his mother was in life. The result of that quest is a book, *Finding Mom*, due to be published by Wipf & Stock in Eugene, Ore., this summer. “The title focuses on the fact that I found my mom,” Steve reflects. “I found her body, but as a result of this process, I found her again as my mother.”

A vibrant portrait of a complex woman began to emerge during the process. For instance, he discovered that she loved to take photographs.

Steve found copies of old photos, many of which had either passed from his memory or he had never known existed, as well as her old camera. No detail of his mother’s life was too minute – even down to her love of Whitman’s chocolates. And he was delighted to discover that she too had a love of reading. In Steve’s words, she became more than simply her worst moment. But that moment is also part of her story. Steve learned she had tried to take her life two other times and struggled with depression and hallucinations – a condition for which she had taken medication up until three weeks before her death.

Today Steve says he has found a measure of peace and closure. But the tears are as present now as before. “In some ways, part of this process deepens your understanding of what you missed,” he confesses. “The more I learned about my mother, the more I thought she and Betty would have gotten along really well. But she never met Betty.

“The more I learned about my mother, the more I learned my love of reading came from her. And yet she never saw me as a student or as a professor,” Steve adds. “There is still a sense of loss and still moments where the wound almost feels deeper because I am being open about it. But those feelings are balanced by the understanding that I really do have a mom. When that happened to me as a child, I wondered if I was responsible in some way for it. All my friends had normal families with a mother and father and everything, and I just missed that. I still have that sense of loss. I think I always will. The wound that I had has become a scar. With a scar, I am reminded of the pain of the wound, but also the healing.” 





PEACE,



BESTILL

BY MEREDITH SELL '14

Every mark on the map was starting to look the same, lines blending into each other, doing less to show Rhonda (Bloss '02) Cahill where they were and where they should go, and more to confuse and frustrate her about this whole navigation challenge in the Sahara Desert.

Rhonda was exhausted. She knew she and her teammate were lost in one of the map's mountain ranges, but she couldn't find a route through a mountain pass and she wasn't even sure what direction they were supposed to be headed anymore.

Look up.

She folded the map, prayed, and then surveyed her surroundings. They were at the top of a narrow, windy road, looking down the side of a mountain. She had no idea how to get down.

Look at the sun.

The sun was setting. Navigation wouldn't be possible once it passed the horizon. Desert nights really were pitch black. Rhonda knew from the map that their final checkpoint was north. *Drive north*, she told her teammate. *Keep the sun on your left.*

When they made it to camp, pulled through the lit pathway, and took their truck through the check-in, Rhonda was berating herself. She couldn't believe she'd gotten them lost on day three.

It's not about the race.

True, but still ...

I need you to be ready.

Rhonda heeded the still small voice and shifted focus. She and her teammate were competitive, but they were racing for more than pride. Their truck advertised their purpose in capital letters: **STOP CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**. Their common history and, now, common passion had brought them to Morocco for Rallye Aïcha des Gazelles, a nine-day navigation challenge through the Sahara - the world's toughest women's off-road competition.

Rhonda headed to the food tent. Inside, a woman pulled her aside. "Can I talk to you?" They found a spot away from everyone else.

"I can tell," the woman began, "that you've genuinely healed from sexual abuse, but I don't know how."

Ready?




Her eyes don't have to be closed for Rhonda to remember the nightmare. She had the same one for nearly two decades, three to five times a week, sometimes more than once the same night, waking her in a cold sweat with a sick taste in her mouth.

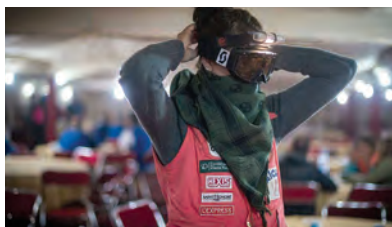
"I was in my home when I was little," Rhonda said. "There was a babysitter that came over and, all of a sudden, my [two older] brothers disappeared. The babysitter would take me to the bathroom and ... the details of it I don't think matter, but your mind can explain."

Three-and-a-half. That's how old she was when it happened, but for years she thought it was only a bad dream that wouldn't go away.





**"I CAN TELL,"
THE WOMAN
BEGAN, "THAT
YOU'VE
GENUINELY
HEALED FROM
SEXUAL ABUSE,
BUT I DON'T
KNOW HOW."**



It wasn't until her junior year at Taylor, when she told her roommate Emily (Sjostrom '02) Starzynski about the nightmare, that she was challenged to consider maybe this dream was a memory. "It was the first time I didn't want to fight it," Rhonda said.

To learn the truth, she had to tell her parents about the dream. She went home for Christmas break planning to do so.

In the back of her mother's custom framing art gallery, fitting a frame together, Rhonda told her mother the dream.

"You remember that?" her mother said, shocked.

Had Rhonda been holding glass, it likely would have shattered. *That was real?* she wondered, as her mother went on, saying she and Rhonda's father had never known what happened. The kids were acting weird when they came home and saying things that didn't make sense, so they didn't use that babysitter again and left it at that. Four weeks later, they learned the girl's father had gone to jail for abusing her and her sisters.

Rhonda's father was a former explosives expert in the Army who'd spent years in law enforcement. He'd raised his kids to protect themselves, telling them repeatedly, "I love Jesus, but if anyone ever hurts you, I'll kill them." When Rhonda told him about the dream in the van on the way to the Christmas tree farm, he didn't respond, just drove silently, parked the car, and said, "Ready to get a tree?"

Rhonda didn't push the issue. When she brought it up to her older brother of four years, Aaron '03, he remembered the night. "The babysitter had actually locked him and my other brother in a bedroom away

from me," Rhonda said. "I've got to be honest, Rhonda," she remembers him saying, "I've lived in torment wondering what happened to my baby sister that night."

The nightmare held the truth: the worst-case scenario, outside of death, had actually happened.

Since the day she brought it up to her family, the dream hasn't revisited Rhonda, but accepting the truth was only the beginning. The path to healing required humility and the willingness to let bitterness go.

Almost two years after that first step, after marrying Scott Cahill '00, graduating, and having their first child, Rhonda began going to counseling an hour each week. Every week, her counselor helped her talk things through, showed her in Scripture the necessity of forgiveness, and encouraged Rhonda to not only forgive those who'd hurt her - they made an entire list - but also to bless them.

"I need to forgive you so that I can be set free," Rhonda said, and though she hasn't seen the babysitter in person since she was a toddler, she finds herself praying for her.

Set. Go.

"Forgiveness," Rhonda told the woman in the black Saharan night.

"Forgiveness?" the woman questioned, incredulous.

"Is there something you want to tell me?" Rhonda asked, gently.

"No," the woman sputtered, but moments later, she told Rhonda of the abuse she'd suffered repeatedly at the hands of her grandfather and how her family had ordered her to keep quiet and not shame them, even as he continued abusing her.

"It's been years of anger that I've been able to stay safe - not forgiveness," the woman said.

Pre-forgiveness, Rhonda had to control her environment. She was angry, always on edge. When people got to know her, they walked away. It was the same for this woman.

"Do you have repetitive nightmares about the situation?" Rhonda asked, her second-to-last question.

"I don't sleep."

"Tell me," Rhonda said, "what has anger protected you from?"

Peace, be still. T



» **FROZEN** – "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."
Genesis 8:22



ALUMNI NOTES

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1948

Cal Fleser went home to be with his Lord on December 4, 2014 at his home in Lithia, Fla. A United States Navy aviation veteran of World War II, Cal earned the American Campaign Medal for his service. He was a graduate of Taylor University, the University of Michigan, and University of New Hampshire. A lifelong educator, Cal taught chemistry at Shelby, Hudsonville, and Zeeland High Schools, and retired after 20 years at Grand Rapids Junior College, where he also served as assistant basketball coach. Cal enjoyed golf, ice fishing, trout fishing the Little Manistee River, travel, Cubs baseball, and UM sports. He spent several years as a volunteer for Wycliffe Bible Translators and served for 20 years as a volunteer for Hospice of Holland, Mich. Cal and Betty attended Central Wesleyan Church of Holland for many years.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, **Betty (Coats) Fleser**, along with other loved ones.

1950

01 Barney Sikma passed away at the Illinois Veterans Home on October 10th, 2014. Barney was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, serving in Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal, and a retired librarian at the Garden City Public School system in Garden City, N.Y. He is survived by two nieces, two nephews, and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

1952

Donald Brooks went to be with his Lord and Savior on November 30, 2014. An American Baptist minister, Don pastored churches in Nebraska and Ohio. He also served twice as

the president for Nebraska Ministers Council and was past president of the Nebraska Baptist Convention. He is survived by his loving wife, Sharon, as well as his daughter, Cheryl Ryan, and numerous caring nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

1960

Curtis Carter serves as senior professor of aesthetics in the philosophy department of Marquette University and the Les Aspin Center for Government in Washington D.C., where he developed a program for congressional interns on the arts and public policy. He has traveled numerous times to China to give lectures. He has also had his writing published in China.

1963

As **Dr. Alan Jon Atha** wished, he died at home on May 7, 2013, surrounded by the love of family friends and his canine buddies, Midnight and Daylight. In his final hours, friends and relatives gathered around and others called to tell him stories that had to do with the impact, caring, and influence he had on their lives. As a psychologist, his quest was to facilitate and support the changes in life for which people hoped. For so many, he was truly a "change agent" who unlocked the doors to meaning, purpose, hope, and unconditional love. Dr. Atha is survived by his wife, **Gail Ofte-Atha '64**, and

many other beloved family members and friends.

1965

Richard Newton died on August 3, 2014. Richard made a trip to the Philippines several months before his passing, a trip that characterized his adventurous and exciting spirit. His love for Taylor University, writing, and photography will be remembered by his family and friends.

1968

02 Dick Petersen, Gary Harmon, Glenn McCroskery, and Nelson Rediger '67 played golf at the TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Ill., last June.

1969

Tony Garton has been recognized as the 2015 Wells County (Indiana) Citizen of the Year. In addition to a 33-year career as an educator in the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District, Tony served as chairman of the administrative council at Epworth United Methodist Church and held board memberships for several Wells County organizations: the YMCA, the Alcoholic Beverage Board, the Leadership Academy, and the Purdue Extension. He also served as president of Heartland REMC's Operation Round-Up and was an officer for Wells County Democrats. In addition



01



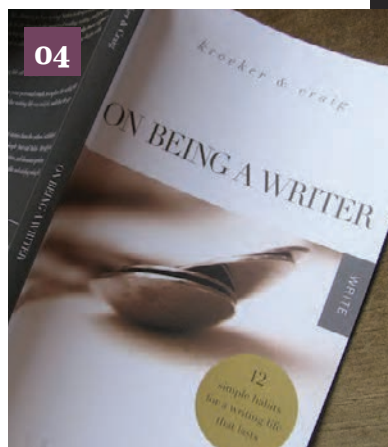
02



03



04



04

to all of those volunteer positions, Tony headed the local Christmas charity, "Buckets for Santa," and enjoyed a long career as a sports official.

1972

03 Barbara "Bobbie" (Gardner) Wolgemuth stepped into heaven on October 28, 2014. Bobbie embodied the joy of introducing others to God's amazing grace and bestowing the legacy of deep love to her children and grandchildren. Those family members missing her and expectantly waiting to see her again include her husband Robert Wolgemuth '69, daughters and sons-in-law, Melissa (Wolgemuth '93) and Jon Schrader '93, Julie (Wolgemuth) and Christopher Tassy, along with her five beloved grandchildren.

1973

David Karl died August 17, 2014. After a successful business career, David retired in Hawaii and became an accomplished stained glass artist specializing in volcanic eruptions.

1993

04 Charity (Singleton) Craig, along with current Taylor parent Ann Kroeker, recently published a new book, *On Being a Writer*, with T.S. Poetry Press. The book marks an important career shift as Craig recently became a full-time freelance writer and editor, and Kroeker recently expanded her work as a writing coach. Both authors live and work in central Indiana.

2000

05 Jeremy '00 and Lynn '01 Smith welcomed their fourth daughter, Lillian Rose, into the family on July 17, 2014. She joins big sisters Abigail, Olivia, and Caraline.

06 Vicki Clifton recently had her first book published by Westbow Press, a division of Zondervon. The Second Door is the first in a mystery novel series. The e-book and paperback are available through Westbow, Amazon and Barnes & Noble under the name Victoria Rachel Clifton.



05



06





Homecoming 2015

Mark your calendar for Homecoming 2015, October 23-24. Return to campus and reconnect with the Taylor community through campus events, reunion gatherings, and visiting with fellow Taylor classmates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
TAYLOR.EDU/HOMECOMING

2001

07 Amy (Simon) Hanna was honored with the Wisconsin's Crystal Apple Award for excellence in teaching. Of the 225 teacher nominations, 24 were interviewed by a committee from which four winners of the award were named. Amy teaches middle school art, reading, math, and geography in the small dairy farming community of Granton, Wis.

08 Karin (Staffin) Sancho and her husband Cesar welcomed their fourth child on December 6, 2014. Tiago Benjamin joins his siblings Graciella, Matias, and Elisa.

2004

09 Leslie Ames married Jesse Dickinson on January 4, 2014, in Boulder, Colo. Other Taylor graduates in attendance include **Katie Ames Altorfer '07**, **Greg Smith**, **Stacie (Frey '06) Smith**, **Mark Voss '03**, and **Amanda (Zulauf '03) Voss**. Leslie and Jesse met in graduate school at Denver Seminary.

Melanie (Brumbaugh) Hefner and her husband Jed celebrated the birth of

their first child, Abigail Grace, on July 31, 2014. The Hefners recently moved to San Antonio, Texas, where Jed is an IT Consultant for a federal defense contractor and Melanie loves caring for Abigail as a stay-at-home mom.

10 Martina (Graber) Cully and her husband Clark praise God for the safe arrival of their daughter, Reeve Faye, born June 18, 2014. Martina and Clark remain in the Washington, D.C., area.

11 Becky (George) Beasley and her husband Kemper are the proud parents of Kemper "Kemp" Morton Beasley, IV, born July 3, 2014. The family lives in Buckingham, Va.

2005

12 Pam (McClaine) Wallace and her husband Glenn joyfully welcomed their son, Benjamin Lucas, on August 15, 2014. Big brothers Glennie, Jonnie, Will, Josh, and PJ are thrilled and Pam is enjoying her houseful of boys.

13 Bekah (Vargaz) Wallace and husband Ryan Wallace are part of a team launching a new type

of ministry in Ypsilanti, Mich. Cultivate Coffee & TapHouse is set to open summer 2015 and will create connections in the community going much deeper than coffee and beer. As a non-profit organization, Cultivate's proceeds will help to provide sustainable solutions for hunger relief through gardening and clean water programs. Check out their Facebook page to discover more!

2006

14 Seth and Becca (Miller) Pietrini welcomed their daughter, Hannah Rose, in September 2012 and their son, Evan James, in June 2014. The couple currently resides in Lisle, Ill.

15 Justin and Jen (Ostendorf) Noelle celebrated the birth of their daughter Madelynn Elizabeth on July 21, 2014. Maddy joins brother Max (3). The family lives in Fishers, Ind.

2007

16 Tom and Natalie (Uetrecht) Ganz joyfully welcomed their son, Benjamin Hudson, on September 17, 2014. The Ganz family lives in St.

Louis, Mo., where Natalie works as a reading specialist and Tom is an OBGYN resident.

Ben and Kerrie (Schene) Taylor welcomed their daughter, Vivian Jane, into the world on February 18, 2014. The family resides in Mechanicsburg, Pa.

2008

17 Dr. Chris and Hannah (Baur '09) Jetter welcomed their third son, Lincoln Brady, on December 2, 2014, joining big brothers Paxson and Boden.

2010

18 Caitlin Knowlton married Samuel Shepard on July 27, 2014, in Columbus, Ohio. Other Taylor alumni in attendance included **Julie Johnson**, **Maija (Lundgren) Noll**, **Jennifer (Richards) Zigler**, and **Emily (Fisher) Harper**. Samuel and Caitlin are both scientists and live in Atlanta, Ga.

18



19



20



21



22



18 Paul Williams married Katie Sheraw on October 27, 2013, in Pittsburgh, Pa.

2011

19 Chesternique “Chess” (Rolle) Bullard recieved the Marlin Award, a Caribbean gospel music award for her hit single, “Thank You”, which was named Contemporary Vocal Performance of the Year. On August 31, Chesternique and her husband, Ketlinado, became proud parents of their first-born baby boy, Ketlinado Chester Hilton, Jr.

Christopher Jacobs was promoted to Controller at the United Methodist Foundation of Indiana in September.

20 Kate Westrate married Steve Austin '95 on October 11, 2014, at

Gethsemane Episcopal Church in Marion, Ind. The couple joyfully celebrated with many Taylor graduates from near and far. Taylor alumni in the bridal party included Emily Paladin, Kevin Diller '93, Brian Shivers '90, Amy Wilson, Heather Tyner, Drew Moser '02, as well as their parents Brian Westrate '83, Diana (Jordan '83) Westrate, Dennis Austin '63, and Lois (Jackson '63) Austin. The couple resides in Upland, Ind., where they both work at Taylor University.

2012

21 Molly Gibson married Andrew Schiller on June 23, 2013. The couple now lives in Peoria, Ill.

Amanda (Hatland) Howell and her husband Joshua celebrated the birth

of their first child, Phineas Jude, on November 3, 2014.

2013

22 Jenna Fahlen and Taylor Borst '15 were married in Montague, Mich., along Lake Michigan on June 21, 2014. It was such a wonderful celebration full of support from family, friends, and many Taylor friends and alumni. Taylor alumni serving as groomsmen included Bryce Marsee '14, Nick Freeman, and Luke Currrens '14, as well as current Taylor students, Tyler Mills '16, Dustin Wanner '16, Logan Borst '18, Tucker Fahlen '15 and Blake Wheeler '16. Taylor alumni serving as bridesmaids included Carly (Keith '12) Aagaard, Stephanie (Kenney '12) Bush, Cara (Andjelich) Johnson, Christiana (Dithrich '14) Poulson,

Hannah Duncan, Rachel (Bartow '14) Freeman, as well as Taylor student, Kara Klausing '15. Taylor and Jenna now reside in Upland, In., where Jenna is a graphic designer for Taylor University's Marketing Department, and Taylor is preparing for graduation in May with a degree in Exercise Science.

2014

Lyndsey (Gammage) Koh began her new position at Taylor University as a History and Political Science Program Assistant.

Cecelia Walden began her first year of teaching at The Esther School, a Christian nonprofit school in Zambia, Africa. She teaches a preschool class of 25 orphaned and underresourced children.



TAYLOR UNIVERSITY OCTOBER 3-5, 2015



APRIL 24-25, 2015

CELEBRATING THE MISSION OF
TAYLOR UNIVERSITY WITH ALUMNI
AND FRIENDS



NEW SCHOLARSHIP CARRIES ON JIM WHEELER'S LEGACY

BY LINDSAY ROBINSON '16

The Jim Wheeler Memorial Fund Endowed Scholarship, created in memory of Jim Wheeler '79 (July 23, 1956—September 19, 1979), will provide financial assistance to Taylor students who are residents of Samuel Morris Hall's third floor, also known as the Brotherhood. It is the first scholarship at Taylor designated for students of a specific residence hall.

The award is being presented by Wheeler's parents, John and Jody.

Jim Wheeler was diagnosed with cancer a few weeks before he graduated from Taylor in 1979. Although the cancer

eventually overtook his body, his commitment to the Lord and desire to show Christ's love served as a witness to many. His bravery and contagious personality had a profound influence on all who knew him.

This scholarship was established to commemorate Wheeler's life and inspire others to follow his example of living a life dedicated to reflecting Christ's love.

The fund must reach the goal of \$30,000 before the first scholarship can be awarded.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 8-9, 2015

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WELCOME HOME: EMMAUS MINISTRIES

From left: Ellen Aldridge '14, Katelin Jones '11, Peter Garringer '14, and Libby Trudeau '12 are the latest Taylor alumni to serve at Emmaus Ministries in Chicago. For nearly 25 years, Emmaus has ministered the redemptive love of Christ to men who have turned to survival prostitution. Emmaus staff members participate in nightly street ministry to meet the men and invite them to the Emmaus ministry center where they can get a hot meal, shower or do laundry, or simply find a listening ear. Emmaus also connects these men with programs that aid in education and job training aimed at helping them break the cycle of prostitution.

The poignant mural of Jesus welcoming the lost son was painted by Taylor University art students several years ago.



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DR. WILLIAM E.
"BILL" PANNELL FULLER
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

DR. WILLIAM E. "BILL" PANNELL FWBC '51 WAS HONORED IN JANUARY BY FULLER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WHEN IT RENAMED ITS AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCH STUDIES CENTER FOR PANNELL. THE WILLIAM E. PANNELL CENTER FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCH STUDIES HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR 40 YEARS AND INCLUDES IN ITS MISSION THE GOAL OF HELPING ALL STUDENTS REFLECT DEEPLY ON THE CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL IMPACT OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCH.

Pannell, a respected civil rights leader, pioneer in the African-American evangelical church, longtime Fuller faculty member, and former Taylor Board of Trustees member, was a key voice in racial reconciliation said speaker and author Dr. James Earl Massey. "Before anyone else was writing on race and the church, Bill Pannell was pioneering the very work that needed to be done on the streets of the city," said Massey.

Pannell lives in Altadena, Calif., with his wife Hazel. In 2007, he was awarded a Doctor of Humanities honoris causa by Taylor University.

CHRIS HOLTSMANN

BULLDOG TOUGH

Chris Holtmann '94 admits he had a sense of amazement the first time he took the floor of historic Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, Ind., as head coach of the Butler Bulldogs. In the past 25 years, the Bulldogs have made a habit of knocking higher-ranked opponents from the NCAA tournament and have twice played for the national championship. And Hinkle Fieldhouse itself was home for many years to Indiana's storied high school basketball finals, including the legendary 1954 championship game in which Milan upset highly-favored Muncie Central – a game that inspired the motion picture Hoosiers.

"I have followed the Butler program for years and been close to the people

in this program for years. I have great appreciation and respect for what has done here," Holtmann said. "We are stewards of a great program, and part of a great university."

Holtmann was named Butler's head coach, January 2. During his Taylor years, he was a starting guard for the Trojans and later served as Hall of Fame Coach Paul Patterson's assistant. In addition to Taylor, his coaching career has included stops at Ohio where he was an assistant to fellow Taylor alumnus John Groce '94, and Gardner-Webb (Boiling Springs, NC), where Holtmann led the team to the NCAA tournament and was named a District Coach of the Year.

"You have to be wired a certain way, or in a lot of cases, have a loose wire (to be a coach)," Holtmann said with a smile. "I really do believe it's a profession where people of faith are called to serve. Most of us look at it as a calling ... I always loved Coach (Paul) Patterson's line, 'God speaks to us in those things we care about most.' That has certainly been the case for me in my life."

Holtmann lives in Indianapolis with his wife Lori, also a former Taylor employee, and daughter Nora Jane.



FORGIVENESS IS A CHOICE

FORGIVENESS IS A CHOICE

DR. EUGENE B. HABECKER '68

Louis Zamperini was a true American hero. A former Olympic runner, Zamperini joined the military at the start of WWII and served in the Pacific Theatre with the United States Army Air Corps. After his plane crashed at sea, Zamperini and survivors of the crash survived for nearly seven weeks on a raft before being picked up by the Japanese. As a POW, Zamperini endured horrific treatment at the hands of one particular Japanese guard named Mutsuhiro Watanabe. Also known as “The Bird,” Watanabe took a special, sadistic interest in Zamperini for nearly two years until the end of the war.

After years of post-war depression and struggles, Zamperini became a Christian. As a result of God’s overwhelming forgiveness, Zamperini returned to Japan to seek out his former captors so he could extend that grace and forgiveness to them. His story is chronicled in the excellent book *Unbroken*, written by Laura Hillenbrand, which more recently has been made into a motion picture. Louis Zamperini understood something that I pray all of us might also grasp: part of our Lord’s redemptive plan for this broken, fallen world is actualized when we forgive those who have injured us.

Forgiveness, in the dictionary sense, is “giving up of resentment,” and “granting pardon for or remission of an offense.” In other words, God’s forgiveness of us is something that we do not deserve, and yet he gives it to us anyway. In Luke 16, Jesus explains forgiveness to his disciples this way: “If you see your friend going wrong, correct him. If he responds, forgive him. Even if it’s personal against you, and repeated seven times throughout the day, and seven times he says, ‘I’m sorry, I won’t do it again,’ forgive him.”

Jesus’ teaching is this: forgiveness is not an option to consider, but rather a mandate and calling. Yet the act of forgiving those who have hurt us can be so difficult and often is an ongoing process that can

challenge us for years to come. How can we truly forgive? Ultimately, true forgiveness is a gift from the Holy Spirit. But there are also some practical tips to aid us in our journey of obedience to God’s call.

First, we should not continue to bring up the offense. When we forgive someone, what can be accomplished by our continual dredging up of an offense? Scripture reminds us that when God forgives us, he obliterates the record of the offense. And while there are times that we must protect ourselves from being sinned against repeatedly and/or destructively by an unrepentant family member, friend or associate, actual forgiveness and reconciliation is made harder when we continue to remind this person of their sin.

Second, don’t tell others about it. If the offense has been done in a non-public way, there usually is no need to tell others (unless, of course, it is to protect them). Gossip, the retelling of the story over and over, only delays if not derails restoration.

Finally, don’t dwell on it – let it go and move on. This applies both to the offender and the offended. The person who says,

“I’ll forgive you but I’ll never forget it,” must ask himself or herself if forgiveness has truly been granted. We may have to work hard at getting release from hard memories. Sometimes this will require the help of a counselor or trusted friend. It always requires prayer.

An important distinction is this: forgiveness and consequences are not mutually exclusive. When a nail is wrenched from a piece of wood, it leaves a noticeable scar. The story of David and Bathsheba illustrates this point. Though he was forgiven by God, the negative consequences impacted King David and his family for the rest of his life. And yet, David was forgiven by God and praised for serving God with all of his heart.

As imperfect humans, our best efforts are often flawed. So it is when we forgive. But as we earnestly seek God’s grace and power, God himself has promised to continue that redemptive process of perfecting us. I pray that all of us might be challenged and encouraged to apply God’s Word and these thoughts in our own lives.



Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68 serves as President of Taylor University.

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